

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the performance of a thorough search. Claims 29–54 are pending in this application.

I. INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephone interview conducted on April 13, 2010 (hereinafter “Interview”). Examiner Syed Zia represented the USPTO. Applicants were represented by Karl T. Rees and Christopher J. Palermo. The parties discussed general claim concepts with respect to FIG. 1 and FIG. 2 of Applicants’ Specification, Claims 29 and 42, and U.S. Patent No. 7,036,020 (hereinafter “*Thibadeau*”). In particular, Applicants pointed out several of the differences between the claimed subject matter and the subject matter described in *Thibadeau*. The Examiner argued that an embodiment described in *Thibadeau* allegedly showed the subject matter previously recited in Claims 29 and 42. The Examiner stated that amendments similar to the ones now presented would clarify the subject matter of Claims 29 and 42 enough to ensure that Claims 29 and 42 are not unpatentable over *Thibadeau*. Applicants’ representatives argued that the Office’s interpretations of *Thibadeau* and Claims 29, 42, as then recited, are not reasonable or technically accurate. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants agreed to amend the claims as suggested by the Examiner. No agreement on the allowability of Claims 29 or 42 was reached.

II. ADDED CLAIMS / AMENDMENTS

The added claims and the amendments to the claims are supported by at least the following passages of the Specification as originally filed: ¶¶ [0014], [0017], [0026], [0055]–[0059], [0120], [0196]–[0201], and [0210]. The added claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons explained herein as Claim 42, upon which the added claims depend.

III. ISSUES RELATING TO PRIOR ART

Claims 29-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by *Thibadeau*. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

CLAIM 29

Claim 29 recites, among other elements, an “operating system ~~being~~ stored in [a] security partition” and “**blocking means** for intercepting communications and selectively blocking data access **between [a] host CPU and the security partition**” **in which the operating system is stored**. However, *Thibadeau* depicts the operating system as being stored outside of its security partition. See, e.g., *Thibadeau* at FIG. 3; col. 5, lines 40–50 (requiring that *Thibadeau*’s operating system “is not permitted to access the security partition data”). As discussed in the Interview, *Thibadeau* cannot teach or suggest Claim 29’s “blocking means” for blocking access to a security partition that stores an operating system, ~~for at least the reason that~~ because *Thibadeau* does not describe a security partition that stores an operating system. Moreover, because *Thibadeau* does not describe such blocking means, *Thibadeau* also does not teach or suggest that such blocking means are “deployed along the chain of components that connect the CPU to the storage device” comprising the security partition, as now recited in Claim 29.

A proper anticipation rejection requires a single prior art reference to disclose each and every feature of a claim, *arranged as in the claim*. See *Net Moneyin, Inc. v. Verisign, Inc.*, et al. 549 F.3d 1359 (Fed. Cir. 2008). For at least the foregoing reasons, *Thibadeau* fails to teach or suggest at least one element of independent Claim 29. Therefore, *Thibadeau* does not anticipate Claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CLAIM 42

Claim 42 recites, among other elements, “storing [an] operating system in [a] security partition” and “**at a first component . . . intercepting communications and selectively blocking data access between the host CPU and the security partition**” **in which the operating system**

is stored. However, as explained above, *Thibadeau* depicts the operating system as being stored outside of his security partition. As discussed in the Interview, *Thibadeau* cannot teach or suggest Claim 42's feature of "a first component" blocking access to a security partition that stores an operating system, for at least the reason that *Thibadeau* does not describe a security partition that stores an operating system. Moreover, because *Thibadeau* does not describe Claim 42's "first component," *Thibadeau* also does not teach or suggest that the first component is "deployed along the chain of components connecting the host CPU to the storage device," as now recited in Claim 42.

For at least the foregoing reasons, *Thibadeau* fails to teach or suggest at least one element of independent Claim 42. Therefore, *Thibadeau* does not anticipate Claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CLAIMS 30–41, 43–52

Each of Claims 30–41 and 43–52 depends from Claim 29 or 42, and includes each of the above-quoted features of its respective parent claim by dependency. Thus, *Thibadeau* also fails to teach or suggest at least one feature found in Claims 30–41 and 43–52. Therefore, *Thibadeau* does not anticipate Claims 30–41 and 43–52. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' representative by telephone relating to any issue that would advance examination.

A petition for extension of time for one (1) month and otherwise to the extent necessary to make this reply timely filed is hereby made. The extension of time fee and other applicable fees are submitted concurrently herewith. If any applicable fee is missing or insufficient, throughout the pendency of this application, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any applicable fees and to credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP

Date: May 6, 2010

/Karl T. Rees #58983/

Karl T. Rees, Reg. No. 58,983

2055 Gateway Place, Suite 550
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 414-1233
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076